

EARDISLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 9 January 2020 at 7.30 pm
in Eardisland Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Maryan Hanson (Chair), Elaine Harper (part), Richard Kirby, Shelley Connop, Reg Curtis and Merry Albright.

In Attendance: Ward Cllr Roger Phillips; Parish Clerk Alison Sutton; 8 members of public.

1. **Apologies of absence** – Cllr David Weir.
2. **Declarations of interest** – Cllr Kirby DECLARED an interest in last part of 7.13 and left the meeting while the item was considered.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting** – 20 November 2019. These were ADOPTED and signed.
4. **Public Forum** –
 - 4.1. West Mercia Police – Police contact details in Clerk’s Information Sheet (CIS) NOTED.
 - 4.2. Ward Councillor – Report in the CIS NOTED. Update NOTED: Flood consultation event for affected business and home owners. Leominster library 3.30-6.30 pm 16 January; highways, many potholes now appearing, encourage everyone to report online; phosphate issue, project to put reed beds in sewerage works to reduce levels, hope to get Natural England to take more reasonable attitude; meeting with Police and Crime Commissioner, mentioned local burglaries, targets for officers do not include CPSOs.
 - 4.3. Local Residents – Fence round play area, why weren’t parishioners asked to raise funds to replace; Rospa health and safety duty of care, concern about recent dog attack and dog fouling. Re 7.7 landowner having arborist survey tree, may need crown reduction, assurance given that tree continue to be protected.
5. **Financial Procedures** – The balance of the current account of £43,507.29 as at 23/12/19 was NOTED. Balance includes: committed reserves of £2,000 for insurance flood excess and £20,000 for EVH development work. RESOLVED to undertake virements of £250 to Salary & Expenses lines from Contingency. Actual payments, receipts and variances against budget REVIEWED and AGREED as in appendix:
 - 5.1. B Woodcock, Website accessibility work, £342, C/N 100987 – Paid 20/11/19 under Clerk’s delegated powers.
 - 5.2. Wye Water Services, Drain survey, £144 (inc. £24 VAT), C/N 100988 – Paid 20/11/19 under Clerk’s delegated powers.
 - 5.3. Leominster Community Resource Centre, Magazine printing, £170.60, C/N 100989 – Paid 11/12/19 under Clerk’s delegated powers.
 - 5.4. Roundabout Stationery, Paper for Clerk’s use, £21.59 (inc. £3.60 VAT), C/N 100990 – Paid 11/12/19 under Clerk’s delegated powers.
 - 5.5. Alison Sutton, Salary, extra hours, expenses & refund for PC expenses, £1,595.92, C/N 100991 – Paid 11/12/19 under Clerk’s delegated powers.
 - 5.6. HM Revenue and Customs, PAYE and NIC paid on behalf of Clerk, £329.80, C/N 100992 – Paid 11/12/19 under Clerk’s delegated powers.
 - 5.7. Eardisland Village Hall, Room hire PC and EVHDG, £24, C/N 100993 – Paid 11/12/19 under Clerk’s delegated powers.
 - 5.8. Numbers Plus Ltd, Annual fee for AED cascade number service, £118 (inc. £19.80 VAT), C/N 100994.
 - 5.9. Hitrees Ltd, Lengthsman and parish maintenance, £1,296 (inc. £216 VAT), C/N 100995.
 - 5.10. Income for magazine advertising, £359.
 - 5.11. Income from Alison Sutton for overclaim of 40 miles, £18.

- 6. Planning Applications** – To comment on applications to be determined by Herefordshire Council
- 6.1. P194070/F, Moat Cottage, School Lane, Eardisland, HR6 9BP – Proposed replacement dwelling and garage – RESOLVED to support and comment: existing house too small for family to occupy; new build better option for family home than extension on current building; appreciate effort to provide sustainable dwelling; care and thought gone into design, supports local area and Eardisland NDP; conforms to NDP policies E1 and E5.
 - 6.2. NOTED P193378/FH, Homeleigh, Haven Drive, Eardisland, HR6 9BN – Proposed first floor balcony at rear of property – Approved with conditions.
 - 6.3. NOTED P193684/K, Shop Cottage, Eardisland, HR6 9BN – Proposed works to Willow tree, *Salix alba*, is causing problems to applicants house; i.e. roof. Request a pollard to encourage regrowth, to be reduced to the old cuts, approx 12 ft high – Works allowed.

7. Parish Reports and Issues –

- 7.1. Lengthsman Scheme – Report in CIS NOTED: work in December – replacing wooden platforms on climbing frame and removing fencing and gates round play area and putting up posts and plywood for notices; finding and repairing broken drain in village hall car park. Clerk INSTRUCTED: to report Dump Lane ditch blocked and entrance to culvert under crushed; culvert under Burton Lane already reported, ditches need clearing by landowners once culvert opened.
- 7.2. Reduced mowing of verges for wildlife conservation – Report in CIS NOTED: request from Balfour Beatty to leave verges on C and U roads uncut until August/September to improve biodiversity. RESOLVED to respond that would like trial of one cut only on C1035 from Legions Cross to 30 mph signs.
- 7.3. Footpath issues – Report in CIS NOTED: suggested non-compliance on permissive path and ED7 reported online, as process requires; Locality Steward visited, permissive path not under 20-year rule, landowner not required to provide 1.5 metre path, field not ploughed at time of visit as too wet but potato crop harvested; field on ED7 on boundary considered as put to grass not planted with crop and walkable and acceptable, Steward will advise landowner of requirements to keep path open. RESOLVED that Cllr Albright contact landowner of permissive path to request suitable width path is kept open.
- 7.4. Eardisland Village Hall Development Group – Report in CIS NOTED: gas heaters condemned before Christmas. Further report NOTED: 3 options put forward by Development Group – 1. Replacement gas heaters, cost £3,5k, not suitable for refurbishment, financial support required by EVHMC to run temporary emergency heating, 2. New gas central heating system, cost approx. £7-8k, financial support required to run temporary emergency heating, 3. Close building, as temporary emergency heating not viable long term; cost of insulation and flat ceiling in main hall £7-8k more than insulating within vault, though less efficient energy saving; planning advise pre-application request for advice on windows, EVHDG recommend going for full application with uPVC windows and kitchen, when phosphate issue resolved, rather than pre-application. RESOLVED: by majority (4 for, 2 against) to obtain 3 quotes for new gas central heating system and decide contractor at extra meeting; to obtain 3 quotes for Flood Risk Assessment so can be commissioned when phosphate issue resolved and application can be submitted. Clerk INSTRUCTED to action.
- 7.5. Play area – Report in CIS re quote and request from parishioner NOTED: cost for Fawns to undertake work £1,359, unable to reduce as needs 2 people; repair undertaken by parish, reduce cost by approx. £900; area manager confirmed other issues raised by Inspector on Fawns equipment (aerial runway, bouldering wall, football net and multipurpose play unit) all within acceptable limits, compliant with BS EN1176 and EN1177; parishioner asking for copy of inspection report as fencing removed and Rospa advised needed when originally installed; Rospa confirmed with Clerk that fences not recommended now or required unless direct access to road. RESOLVED: to leave without fence and review at September meeting. Clerk INSTRUCTED: to ask in parish magazine for parishioners with comments to contact her. RESOLVED that parish not undertake installation. Clerk INSTRUCTED to contact inspection company to see if local installer able to undertake work.
- 7.6. Village entry gates – Report in CIS NOTED: cost of 4 gates £640 and installation £496; sites agreed with highways and planning. RESOLVED by majority (5 for, 1 against) to install gates.

Clerk INSTRUCTED to action.

- 7.7. Application for TPO on Eardisland oak – RESOLVED defer action until landowner has arborists report and plan for maintenance and safety of tree.
- 7.8. Warning sign for flooding – Ward Cllr to obtain information about Flood Warden scheme, consider action on later agenda.
- 7.9. Purchase of new parish computer for Clerk’s use – Report in CIS NOTED current laptop bought in 2012, small memory, parish website manager advised unable to upgrade, needs replacing. RESOLVED to consider purchase of new computer or payment, as in contract, to Clerk for use of own computer. Clerk INSTRUCTED to obtain quote and bring information on payment in contract to next meeting.
- 7.10. Report from Speedwatch Co-ordinator NOTED: started July 2018, 4-6 wkly during spring and summer; problems with heavy equipment, heavy signs to erect at start of each session and getting 3 volunteers to undertake sessions without need for Co-ordinator doing session. Clerk INSTRUCTED: contact police co-ordinator re smaller lighter equipment and signage; send formal thankyou to parish Co-ordinator and volunteers; arrange strimming by Lengthsman around 30 mph signs. NOTED Cllr Connop can erect signs even if unable to undertake full session.
- 7.11. Readopting policy for magazine inserts and agree cost to be charged if required – Report in CIS NOTED: policy drafted in 2011; although states no charge, previous Churchwarden gave donation for Christmas card insert etc; recommendation to update policy with inserts not encouraged and only agreed by editor and PC if from PC, church for card etc or parish organisation. RESOLVED to consider updated policy as recommendation on next agenda.
- 7.12. Tree pollarding – NOTED that not required until end of 2020.
- 7.13. Decision to give grant to church in light of latest NALC advice – Report in CIS NOTED: NALC Legal Update December 2019 continues in same view that until settled by courts unable to say definitely whether or not legal for PC to undertake maintenance in churchyard. RESOLVED to give grant from 2020 budget.

8. NatWest account documents – Required data for application for account provided to Clerk.

9. Correspondence – Correspondence in CIS NOTED: Great Collaboration sessions, Clerk INSTRUCTED to send to Cllr Harper.

10. Matters for the next agenda or action under Clerk’s delegated powers –

Next agenda:

- March agenda – Environmental Group
- Extra meeting - 192726
- As above.

Clerk’s action:

- Pay invoice for J Knight, Bus shelter cleaning, £30
- Pay invoice for EVH, Room hire for PC and EVHDG, £24
- NOTED residents of Haven Road area cleaned up, now reported online for drain jetting and moss clearance.

11. Date of next meeting – Extra meeting Wednesday 29 January at 7.30 pm for central heating quotes and planning; ordinary meeting Thursday 13 February 2020 at 7.30 pm.

This meeting was declared closed at 10.00 pm.

SIGNED.....
(Chair)

DATE.....